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shelter belts there is an important task. The vast expanses of Beyukdyuz, Shavilik, and other steppes are to be afforested and to accomplish this, the Ministry of Water Management Azerbaydzhan SSR, must carry out the necessary measures so that water from the Araks River can be used for irrigating the plantings in these regions.

Experimental afforestation of the Azerbaydzhan steppes began in 1946. Such trees as poplar (*Populus*), acacia (*Acacia*), honey locust (*Gleditschia triacanthos*), sophora (*Sophora*), walnut (*Juglans*), oak (*Quercus*), and persimmon (*Diospyros lotus*) have been planted in the Mil' and Mugan steppes. Honey locust has shown an average annual growth of 120-150 centimeters, black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) a similar growth of not less than 100 centimeters. Poplar planted in 1946 - 1947 is now 4-5 meters tall.

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- 2 -

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